

Park Classification System

INTRODUCTION, PURPOSE AND PROCEDURE

Introduction

The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation is charged with the dual mission of protecting and preserving the resources of the state park system and of providing recreation opportunities and facilities for public use. These resources present diverse and high quality recreational, social, interpretive, conservancy and educational opportunities.

A well-balanced park system requires the utilization of a broad range of resources in varying combinations; from intensively-used developed sites providing diverse recreation opportunities for large groups of people, to primitive areas providing natural enjoyment for limited numbers.

Purpose

The classification of park lands is an important first step in focusing the planning, development and management efforts vital to balancing public recreation opportunities and resource integrity statewide. Through park classification, the dominant character and principal values of an area are defined, and use and management policies are established. A classification system allows the programming, orderly development, and use of these lands based upon these management policies. Standardization of the classification system assures uniform implementation of these policies on a statewide basis. This will result in consistent management of our natural, recreational and heritage resources.

Procedure

On September 17, 1973, the Idaho Park and Recreation Board adopted the original *Classification System for the Recreation Resources in the State of Idaho*. All units of the state park system existing at that time received a park classification. Since then, additions to the state park system have received a classification concurrently with authorization by the legislature. A park's classification is revisited during the preparation of the initial and subsequent master plans for that unit and may be modified by the Board at that time. Subsequent changes of a park's classification require thorough staff analysis and Board approval.

CLASSIFICATIONS FOR IDAHO STATE PARK LANDS

The statewide park classification system establishes four categories of state parks in Idaho. They are: Natural Park, Recreation Park, Heritage Park and Recreation Trailway. Each classification has a distinct purpose, unique criteria, appropriate development intensity, specific management principles and compatible uses. In determining the classification of a park, consideration must be given to any national, state, or regional designation which may already exist in regard to the park.

A current list of park classifications can be found in Appendix A.

DESIRED VISITOR EXPERIENCES

It is the goal of the Idaho State Park system to provide its visitors with a wide variety of experiences. These include the opportunity for:

- Solitude
- A leisure atmosphere
- Observation/study of natural features and processes
- Outdoor experiences in a natural surrounding
- A friendly and safe environment
- Cultural and historical experiences
- Pleasant and positive social interaction
- Athletic challenge

All development, management and programming should promote and enhance the visitor's opportunity to have these experiences. Programs or facilities which conflict with the visitor's ability to have these experiences, or do not in some way contribute to these experiences, should be carefully evaluated as to their appropriateness in the park setting. It is desirable for visitors to carry a part of the experience away with them and to return home with good memories.

Each state park classification offers multiple recreation experiences; however, no single park is operated with the intent of providing opportunities for all experiences. By definition alone, some experiences conflict with the intent of specific park classifications.

NATURAL PARK

Purpose of Establishment

Natural Parks are established to maintain the ecological integrity of areas of Idaho possessing exceptional resource values which illustrate Idaho's natural history. *Natural Parks* provide for the use and enjoyment of these resources in a manner that will enhance the understanding, appreciation and stewardship of these resources for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

Desired Visitor Experiences

Visitors to *Natural Parks* will be offered the opportunity to find solitude, a leisure atmosphere, observation/study of natural features, positive experiences in natural surroundings, and a friendly and safe environment. This includes the development of personal outdoor ethics, development of knowledge of natural processes, and opportunities for directed and/or independent study.

Resource and Site Qualifications

A *Natural Park* must contain natural resources of statewide significance. Statewide significance means that the unit contains unique, natural values of sufficient extent and importance to meaningfully contribute to the broad illustration of the state's natural history. These include natural (botanical, zoological, and geological) and scenic qualities, which are both beautiful and representative of the state.

A *Natural Park* should be sufficiently comprehensive to allow effective management of a community of indigenous flora and fauna. A *Natural Park* should also provide a variety of opportunities for public enjoyment in a natural setting with minimum negative effect to the resource.

A park may contain resource values other than those for which the park received its overall classification. These secondary resources should be of a lesser magnitude than the resources for which the park received its overall classification. The use and protection of these secondary resources will be addressed by subsequent resource area designations. The existence of these secondary resources should not unduly affect the determination of the overall park classification.

Natural Parks should be established where significant and unique aspects of the state's natural resources exist.



*Devil's Washbowl
Malad Gorge State Park*

Management Principles

Resource Management - Management will be directed at maintaining the ecological integrity and interpreting the natural values of the unit. Management will seek to maintain balance in the ecological community and reestablish missing elements of that community, such as indigenous plant and animal life to the extent practical.

Compatible Uses - Visitor use includes both interpretation and outdoor recreation in a natural setting. In addition to being an outdoor classroom, a *Natural Park* is a place for participating in those outdoor recreational activities which can be accommodated without detriment to the natural character and features of the park and do not detract in any way from the natural scene. In the broad sense, park use falls predominantly in the aesthetic portion of the recreational spectrum. *Natural Parks* are not intended to accommodate all forms or unlimited volumes of recreation use. Compatible uses could include hiking, interpretive programming, nature study, individual camping, group camping, picnicking, bicycling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, equestrian use, boating, swimming and other recreational pursuits which do not significantly degrade from the natural process or aesthetic qualities of the area.

Physical Developments - Facilities required for the health, safety, and protection of users, as well as those consistent with compatible uses shall be provided. Location, scale and design of all facilities shall be complementary to the environment and to the values being preserved. Facilities should support customer services, enhance the visitor's experience and provide for staff operational needs. Typical development might include: group campgrounds, individual campsites, lodges, marina facilities, boat launches, swimming beaches, visitor/interpretive centers, program areas, trails, trailhead facilities, staff housing areas, maintenance yards, and other similar facilities.

RECREATION PARK

Purpose of Establishment

Recreation Parks are established to provide areas that are adaptable to a broad range of intensive outdoor recreation uses for large numbers of people.

Desired Visitor Experiences

Visitors to a *Recreation Park* will be offered active participation and recreation activities, athletic challenge, positive experiences in natural surroundings, a leisure atmosphere, and a friendly and safe environment.

Resource and Site Qualifications

Recreation Parks shall offer a range of outdoor recreation opportunities that may not be provided by county or municipal entities. The land area and other resources of a *Recreation Park* should be sufficiently extensive to provide a wide range of recreational opportunities capable of withstanding intensive use by large numbers of people. *Recreation Parks* may be established on artificially-created resources, where more natural recreation resource potential is not available for development in that area.

The resource base should provide recreation opportunities significant enough to assure regional or statewide patronage. *Recreation Parks* should not be a substitute for urban park facilities, such as softball complexes, soccer fields, etc. *Recreation Parks* are intended to supplement municipal, county and regional facilities and should not be established in lieu of them.



*Model Airplane Field
Farragut State Park*

A park may contain resource values other than those for which the park received its overall classification. These secondary resources should be of a lesser magnitude than the resources for which the park received its overall classification. The use and protection of these secondary resources will be addressed by subsequent resource area designations. The existence of these secondary resources should not unduly affect the determination of the overall park classification.

Preference should be given to locating *Recreation Parks*:

1. Within 1-2 hours driving distance from large population concentrations and/or by natural resources which attract large numbers of users.
2. In areas which have a serious deficiency in both private and public outdoor recreation opportunities.
3. In areas where the establishment of a *Recreation Park* shifts undesirably high usage from more fragile components of the state park system.
4. In areas which can provide sufficient revenue generation potential to offset operational cost.

Management Principles

Resource Management - Outdoor recreation is the primary management objective. *Recreation Parks* are intended to be intensively-used, developed sites providing diverse recreation opportunities for large numbers of people.

Compatible Uses - Primary emphasis in a *Recreation Park* shall be placed on active participation in outdoor recreation. A *Recreation Park* is a place for participating in those outdoor recreational activities which can be accommodated without detriment to the natural character and features of the park. In the broad sense, park use falls predominantly in the active, intensive portion of the recreational spectrum. Compatible uses could include group and individual camping, boating, fishing, special events, outdoor recreation club activities, outdoor concerts and large group programs, reunions and retreats, course and field events, hiking, bicycling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, equestrian use, OHV use, interpretive programming, picnicking and swimming.

The management and use of *Recreation Parks* should remain somewhat flexible. New forms of active outdoor recreation will be developed in the future and may become very popular. These may have to be accommodated, within reasonable limits, to protect more sensitive components of the state park system.

Physical Developments - Facilities required for the health, safety, and protection of users, as well as those consistent with compatible uses shall be provided. Location, scale and design of all facilities shall be directed toward satisfying visitor needs and minimizing the potential for adjacent use conflicts. Facilities should support customer services, enhance the visitor's experience and provide for staff operational needs. Typical development might include: group campgrounds, individual campsites, lodges, golf courses, marina facilities, boat launches, swimming beaches, visitor/interpretive centers, large group amphitheaters, program areas, outdoor club facilities, non-motorized trails, motorized trails, trailhead facilities, staff housing areas, maintenance yards, and other similar facilities.

HERITAGE PARK

Purpose of Establishment

Heritage Parks are established to preserve, restore, and interpret those objects, buildings, sites, districts and related lands which illustrate an historic event, historic period or culture in the heritage of the state.



*Mission of the Sacred Heart
Old Mission State Park*

Desired Visitor Experiences

Visitors to *Heritage Parks* will be offered cultural, historical, and social experiences in a leisure atmosphere. This includes opportunities for cultural growth, opportunity for pleasant and personal interaction with others, the study of historic features, and the development of an historic perspective in friendly and safe surroundings.

Resource and Site Qualifications

Historical resources which are significant include structures or sites at which historic or prehistoric events occurred that are identified prominently with cultural, political, economic, technological, military or social history of the state.

Heritage Parks should be selected on the basis of their significance and integrity. For an historic or prehistoric site, significance requires verification that an historic event occurred at that location. For a structure, integrity is a composite quality composed of original location, materials and workmanship. For an object, integrity requires original materials and workmanship.

Each *Heritage Park* should contain sufficient land to preserve all the significant historic, archeological, or prehistoric features associated with the site and such additional lands as may be needed to protect the historic scene, accommodate visitor use and facilitate operation and management.

A park may contain resource values other than those for which the park received its overall classification. These secondary resources should be of a lesser magnitude than the resources for which the park received its overall classification. The use and protection of these secondary resources will be addressed by subsequent resource area designations. The existence of these secondary resources should not unduly affect the determination of the overall park classification.

Heritage Park locations are predetermined by the geographic occurrence of the historic or cultural resource to be preserved.

Management Principles

Resource Management - Resource management should be directed toward protecting, maintaining,

and if necessary, restoring structures and objects significant to the illustration or commemoration of the historic/cultural scene or event. Management will ensure protection of the site for present and future generations.

Compatible Uses - Visitor use includes both interpretation and outdoor recreation in an historic setting. In addition to being an historic classroom, a *Heritage Park* is a place for participating in those outdoor activities which can be accommodated without detriment to historical values and do not detract in any way from the historic scene. In the broad sense, park use falls predominantly in the passive portion of the recreational spectrum. Compatible uses could include interpretive programming, historic reenactments, hiking, archaeological study, architectural study, historical research, picnicking, individual camping, group camping, bicycling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, horseback riding, boating, and other recreational pursuits.

Physical Developments - Facilities required for the health, safety, and protection of users, as well as those consistent with compatible uses shall be provided. Facilities will be located, scaled and designed to integrate harmoniously into the historic scene being preserved. Facilities should support customer services, enhance the visitor's experience and provide for staff operational needs. Typical development might include: visitor/interpretive centers, program areas, individual campsites, group campgrounds, boat launches, trails, trailhead facilities, staff housing areas, maintenance yards, and other similar facilities.

RECREATION TRAILWAY

Purpose of Establishment

A Recreation Trailway is defined as a linear, land or water-based corridor for recreational travel designed to provide physical challenges and/or to foster an appreciation of the natural environment. *Recreation Trailways* are established to provide multiple-use trail opportunities for outdoor recreationists. Trails which have both their origin and terminus entirely within a currently existing unit of the state park system, such as nature trails, are not included in this classification.

Desired Visitor Experiences

Visitors to a *Recreation Trailway* will be offered the opportunity for solitude, a leisure atmosphere, and athletic challenge. This includes temporary isolation from society and other individuals, direct contact with the natural environment, physically demanding activity, and opportunity for competition, either with one's self or other people.



*Trailbike rider
Ashton-Tetonia Rail Trail*

Resource and Site Qualifications

A *Recreation Trailway* may be a land-based or water-based trail. *Recreation Trailways* should:

1. Provide a safe, high-quality recreation experience.
2. Incorporate points of interest and scenic viewpoints.
3. Minimize user contact with highways (except at access points) and other development which may be detrimental to the user experience.
4. Utilize public lands, abandoned rights-of-way, historic travel routes, and/or waterways where possible.

A trailway may be adjacent to lands having resource values other than those that exist on the trail. The use and protection of those secondary resources can be addressed by subsequent resource area designations. The existence of these secondary resources should not unduly affect the determination of the trailway classification.

Recreation Trailways should be established where scenic resources, a practical alignment and community support concurrently exist.

Management Principles

Resource Management - Trail management will be directed at providing a high quality trail experience for users, in harmony with adjacent landowners and communities in both social and resource management arenas.

Compatible Uses - Trails may be designated for single or multiple use. Trail use may include hiking, horseback riding, bicycling, in-line skating, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, OHV use, or water-based recreation.

Trail waysides may be used for rest and comfort, primitive camping, picnicking or the preservation and interpretation of natural, historic or scenic resources.

Physical Developments - *Recreation Trailway* development will be directed at providing a safe and well-marked route with minimum disruption to the natural environment and adjacent landowners. Facilities required for the health, safety, and protection of users, as well as those consistent with compatible uses shall be provided. Location, scale and design of all facilities should enhance the visitor's experience and provide for staff operational needs. Typical development might include: multi-purpose trails; erosion control structures; bridges/culverts; fencing; trailheads; wayside facilities such as restrooms, picnic areas, benches, primitive campsites, cabins and yurts; trail markers; interpretive signage; and maintenance facilities. Trail waysides should be distributed conveniently along the trail route.

Resource Area Designation System

INTRODUCTION, PURPOSE AND PROCEDURE

Introduction

The resource area designation process identifies those lands within a park most suitable for recreational, interpretive and educational opportunities within a framework of resource protection and perpetuation. This designation defines the pattern for human activity in a given area. It establishes the character of a place by determining what happens, where it happens, and to what degree it happens. It controls use and development, and arranges park activities and facilities in such a manner as to obtain a balance between visitor enjoyment of the park and protection of park resources.

Purpose

Some resources such as historic structures, archaeological and paleontological sites, and sensitive riparian and wetland habitats, require greater protection than others. Development and recreational activities have to be limited in these areas. Other sites are suitable for intensive recreation, camping, trails and interpretive facilities. To integrate land characteristics, protection needs and area-specific suitability for development and/or recreation activities, a resource area designation system has been developed for use in parks statewide. This system considers the unit's classification and purpose, the area's resource values and sensitivities, recreation potential, and desired visitor experiences. Resource values are the relative importance of historical, cultural and natural resources to society. Resources of national, statewide or regional significance are to be considered of high value and importance. Archaeological and paleontological sites and historic structures are of high value. Specific factors used in evaluating resource values include rarity, endangerment and uniqueness. Resource sensitivity is a term used to qualify the degree to which a resource can be adversely affected by human activity. Cultural and natural resource sensitivities play key roles in determining appropriate development and use in specific areas.

The designation of resource areas is based on analysis and integration of resource management and protection objectives, resource constraints, and resource sensitivity information.

Procedure

A resource area designation system has been developed to classify all lands managed by the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation. Six levels of protection (or appropriate levels of development/activity) are recognized in this system. These levels span a wide range of resource management strategies, from low resource impact management in the *Scientific Area* to high resource impact management in the *Recreation* and *Service/Support Areas*. All land within a state park shall receive resource area designations during the preparation of the master plan for the unit. Depending upon the unique characteristics of each park, any or all of the six resource area designations may be utilized; however, it should not be expected that all resource area designations will appear in all parks. Resource areas are designated and their boundaries delineated by the Planning Review Team during the park's master planning process and are approved by the Idaho Park and Recre-

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ation Board with its adoption of the plan. Resource area boundaries may be refined during the preparation of subsequent implementation plans by park staff. Resource area changes or relocation of resource area boundaries require staff analysis, justification and Board approval.

RESOURCE AREA DESIGNATIONS

A detailed description of the six resource area designations follows. An amplification of this information is found in table form in Appendix B.

Scientific Area

On a Resource Area map, the *Scientific Area* is designated with the letter (S). A sample of a resource area map can be found in Appendix C.

Description - *Scientific Areas* encompass resources that have unique or exceptional natural, scenic, and educational value. These may include: outstanding geological formations or features illustrating geological processes; fossil evidence of the development of life on earth; an ecological community illustrating characteristics of a physiographic province or a biome; a biota of relative stability maintaining itself under prevailing natural conditions, such as a climax community; an ecological community illustrating the process of succession and restoration to a natural condition following disruptive change.

Management Objectives - The primary objective is to protect and perpetuate the individual features of unique natural or scientific significance or areas of land or water which possess inherent conditions of exceptional natural, scientific or educational value. Physical development shall be limited to the facilities absolutely necessary for protection, research, and educational projects, and where applicable for interpretive services. Human access to *Scientific Areas* is limited to educational and scientific purposes. Appropriate management may include prohibition of use to protect the resource from degradation. This resource area shall be adequate in size to protect the values within the area. Resource modification can occur in this resource area to maintain or restore these areas in as natural a state as possible.

Resource Area Characteristics - Although *Scientific Areas* are primarily established to safeguard unique resources, these areas have certain characteristics and atmosphere that cumulatively and subconsciously impart the desired visitor experience. These areas are isolated, relatively inaccessible and free of all but natural sounds. As visits to these areas must be approved by park staff, visitors to these areas are assured a personal experience that is undisturbed by other park users.

Typical Activities - Activities causing extremely low impact to the natural resources, such as guided interpretive walks and scientific study.

Natural Area

On a Resource Area map, the *Natural Area* is designated with the letter (N).

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Henrys Fork of the Snake River at Harriman State Park

Description - Lands and waters containing outstanding natural communities and possessing natural integrity. This area encompasses exceptional geologic, wildlife, botanical, riparian, and riverine environments. *Natural Areas* are established to promote, to perpetuate, and where necessary, to restore the natural character of the land.

Management Objectives - The primary objective is to preserve the resource in a near-natural state. Appropriate management includes protection of the resource from degradation, inappropriate development, and over-use.

Resource modification can occur in these resource areas only to maintain or restore these areas in as near-natural state as possible.

Resource Area Characteristics - *Natural Areas* have certain characteristics and atmosphere that cumulatively and subconsciously impart the desired visitor experience. These areas are secluded, with subdued noise levels and a serene, peaceful environment. In these areas, a visitor may occasionally encounter individuals or small groups seeking a similar experience.

Typical Activities - Activities causing low impact to the natural resources, such as hiking, wildlife watching, photography, cross-country skiing, dispersed picnicking, small-group interpretive walks, and boating activities that do not degrade the environment or detract from the desired visitor experience.



*The Big Dune
Bruneau Dunes State Park*

Conservation Area

On a Resource Area map, the *Conservation Area* is designated with the letter (C).

Description - Lands and waters offering a variety of resource values including: open space, scenic, aquatic, geological, wildlife, botanical, soil stabilization, watershed protection, buffers, etc. *Conservation Areas* are established to accommodate low to moderate resource impact and dispersed forms of recreation and to act as buffers from or transitions to other resource areas. *Conservation Areas* are relatively undeveloped.

Management Objectives - The objectives of these areas are to provide for both use and protection of the resource. Facility design and area management should



*Plummer Creek Marsh
Heyburn State Park*

RESOURCE AREA DESIGNATIONS

establish limits on use to ensure resource conservation. Resource modification can occur in these areas to provide both moderate levels of recreational opportunity and/or conservation of the natural resources.

Resource Area Characteristics - *Conservation Areas* have certain characteristics and atmosphere that cumulatively and subconsciously impart the desired visitor experience. This transitional area is characterized by dispersed, sporadic activity. Noise levels vary from relatively quiet to fairly noisy, depending upon the occasion. Visitors to these areas will frequently encounter other individuals and groups of park users.

Typical Activities - Activities causing low to moderate impacts to the natural resources, such as mountain biking, picnicking, cross-country skiing, fishing, dispersed swimming, boating and special events. Also included are the activities listed in the *Natural Area* above.



*Granite Monolith
City of Rocks National Reserve*



*Custer Historic District
Land of the Yankee Fork State Park*

Historic Area

On a Resource Area map, the *Historic Area* is designated with the letter (H).

Description - These areas encompass structures and features of significant historic, cultural, archaeologic or architectural value.

Management Objectives - Preservation of historic and structural integrity is of paramount importance. Emphasis will be placed upon provision of opportunities for education and interpretation in

and around areas, structures and features of historic, cultural, archaeological and architectural value. Appropriate management is to facilitate visitor appreciation without degradation of the resource.

Resource Area Characteristics - *Historic Areas* have certain characteristics and atmosphere that cumulatively and subconsciously impart the desired visitor experience. Although able to accommodate groups of visitors, these areas are quiet, passive and thought-provoking. During periods of peak use, visitors to these areas are almost certain to encounter other visitors seeking the same experience.



*Big Falls Inn
Mesa Falls*

R E S O U R C E A R E A D E S I G N A T I O N S

Typical Activities - The historic area is a moderate use area for historic-period preservation, restorations, and interpretation. Activities include those causing low impacts to the resource, such as personal inspection, photography, scientific study, small-group interpretive walks and special events. Recreation-related facilities are generally secondary and will be separated from the site(s) of historic/cultural resources by sufficient buffers. Activities in keeping with the historical period of the historic/cultural resources are encouraged.

Recreation Area

On a Resource Area map, the *Recreation Area* is designated with the letter (R).



*Recreational Walking
Hells Gate State Park*

Description - Lands and waters offering moderate to high levels of diverse recreation and development opportunities, with a secondary function of conserving the natural character of the surroundings.

Management Objectives - The primary objective of a *Recreation Area* is to provide recreation opportunities so that park visitors can safely enjoy the park and its resources. Appropriate management is to facilitate recreation without irreparable resource damage. The highest level of development and activity in a park is intended to occur within this resource area. *Recreation Areas* are established where the soils, slope, drainage and vegetation can support intensive recreational activities. The landscape within this area can be substantially

Resource Area Characteristics - *Recreation Areas* have certain characteristics and atmosphere that cumulatively and subconsciously impart the desired visitor experience. These areas are public and dynamic. They are readily accessible, busy, crowded, noisy and characterized by almost continuous activity. Visitors to a *Recreation Area* during periods of peak use are certain to encounter many other visitors engaged in a wide variety of recreational and social activities.



*Beach and Bike Path Users
Sandy Point - Lucky Peak State Park*

Typical Activities - Typical activities include those causing potentially moderate to high impacts to area resources, such as developed camping; group sports; developed picnicking; boat mooring, launching and beaching; swimming; beach activities; non-

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motorized trail use; motorized trail use; parking; outdoor interpretive programming; and overnight lodging in dorms, lodges, cabins, yurts or recreational housing. Also included are the activities listed in the *Natural* and *Conservation Areas* above.

Service/Support Area

On a Resource Area map, the *Service/Support Area* is designated with the letters (S/S).



*Rocky Point Marina
Heyburn State Park*

Description - Lands necessary to provide services to park visitors, housing to park employees, and support the maintenance of park facilities, equipment and vehicles.

Management Objectives - The primary objective is to support activities in the other five areas in a safe, efficient, and economic manner. Although activities in this area are essential to the other areas, they are not necessarily aesthetically compatible. Appropriate management is to centralize service, support and maintenance functions in specific, limited areas buffered from activities in the other areas. Facilities in this area should be designed and managed to efficiently accommodate the maximum levels of use anticipated.

Resource Area Characteristics - *Service Support Areas* have certain characteristics and atmosphere that cumulatively and subconsciously impart the desired visitor experience. *Service Support Areas* providing visitor services are readily accessible, busy, noisy and characterized by continuous daytime activity. Visitors to *Service Support Areas* during daylight hours are certain to encounter many other visitors seeking services and engaged in a wide variety of recreational and social activities. *Service Support Areas* supporting staff functions only, e.g., park maintenance and staff housing facilities, are not open to the public.

Typical Activities - Typical visitor activities include park admission, registration, fee collection, visitor information, retail sales, indoor/outdoor interpretive programming, provision of developed moorage, developed parking, and concession operation. Staff activities include seasonal and permanent employee housing and activities associated with shop buildings, storage yards, fueling facilities, and utility stations.



*Maintenance Yard
Harriman State Park*

Appendices

Appendix A - Park Classifications

Appendix B - Resource Area Evaluation Table

Appendix C - Resource Area Designation Map

Appendix D - Glossary of Terms

Park Classifications

(As of August 4, 1999)

CLASSIFICATION OF STATE PARK LANDS

Natural Parks

Priest Lake
Round Lake
Heyburn¹
Mary Minerva McCroskey²
Mowry
Ponderosa³
Bruneau Dunes⁴
Malad Gorge
Mesa Falls⁵
City of Rocks National Reserve^{6*}
Dworshak
Harriman⁷

Historic Parks

Three Island Crossing*
Massacre Rocks^{8*}
Land of the Yankee Fork¹⁰

Heritage Parks

Old Mission⁹

Recreation Parks

Farragut
Winchester Lake
Lucky Peak
Bear Lake
Henry's Lake
Hells Gate
Eagle Island
Lake Cascade
Lake Walcott
Crystal/Niagara Springs¹¹
Coeur d'Alene Parkway

Recreation Trailways

No Parks Currently Carry This Classification

Unclassified Park Lands

Plummer-Mullan
Ashton-Tetonia¹²

Special Designations Within Idaho State Parks:

¹CCC structures at Chatcolet, Plummer Point and Rocky Point Day Use areas were placed on the National Register of Historic Places on February 1, 1995. A segment of the Mullan military road through the park was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on April 5, 1990.

²A 288-acre site, the dryest forest site on the extreme western end of the park, is nationally significant and has been recommended for designation as a national natural landmark. In 1982, upon the recommendation of the Idaho Natural Areas Coordinating Committee, the Idaho Park and Recreation Board designated 6 parcels within McCroskey (containing approximately 1470 acres) as Natural Areas within the Idaho State Park system.

³In 1982, upon the recommendation of the Idaho Natural Areas Coordinating Committee, the Idaho Park and Recreation Board designated the 305-acre central portion of the peninsula unit of Ponderosa State Park as a Natural Area within the Idaho State Park system.

⁴In 1982, upon the recommendation of the Idaho Natural Areas Coordinating Committee, the Idaho Park and Recreation Board designated the salt marsh area of Bruneau Dunes State Park as a Natural Area within the Idaho State Park system.

⁵Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places is pending on Big Falls Inn.

⁶The City of Rocks is one of four national reserves in the United States, and one of two that are units of the National Park System. A 14,080-acre area in the City of Rocks vicinity (including a large portion inside the reserve) was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 24, 1963. On July 19, 1964, the City of Rocks was designated a National Historic Landmark. The original boundaries of the Landmark were revised on August 6, 1987 to encompass a 12,480-acre area. In 1974, City of Rocks was designated a National Natural Landmark. A 312-acre parcel among rock outcrops north of the City of Rocks basin was designated a Research Natural Area by the BLM and USFS prior to the reserve becoming a unit of the National Park Service.

⁷The ranch compound at Harriman State Park was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as the Island Park Land and Cattle Company on December 20, 1996.

⁸Register Rock was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 24, 1978.

⁹On July 4, 1962, the Old Mission was designated a National Historic Landmark.

¹⁰The townsite of Custer was listed as the Custer Historic District on the National Register for Historic Places on February 3, 1981.

¹¹Niagara Springs has been designated a National Natural Landmark.

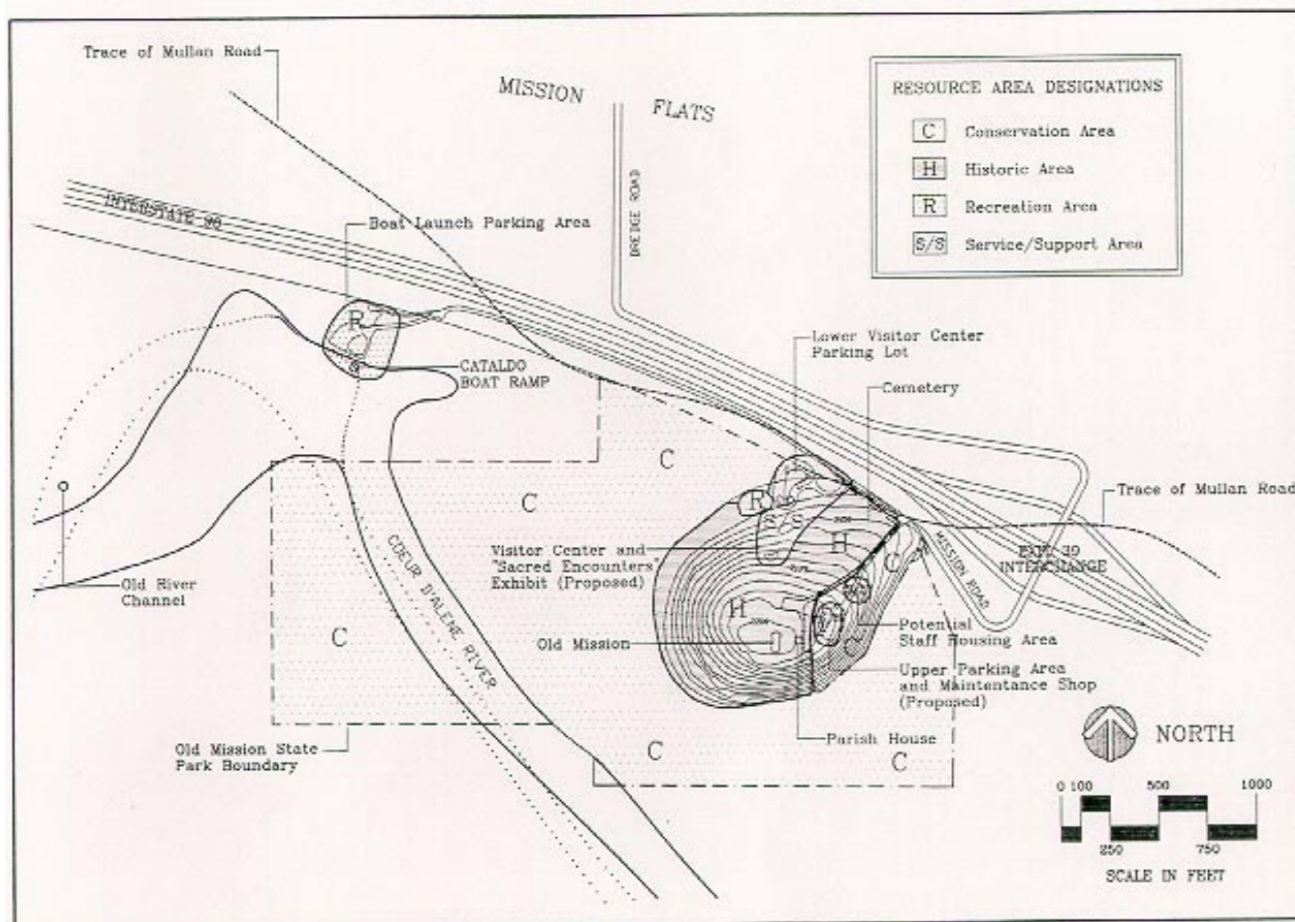
¹²The Conant Creek Pegram Truss Railroad Bridge was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 25, 1997.

*Parks containing portions of National Historic Trails (NHT) include: City of Rocks (California NHT, established in 1992), and Three Island Crossing and Massacre Rocks (Oregon NHT, established in 1978).

Resource Area Evaluation Table

Resource Area Evaluation Criteria and Management Objectives	Scientific Area	Natural Area	Conservation Area	Historic Area	Recreation Area	Service/ Support Area
Qualitative Value of Area Resources	Unique or exceptional resource value	Pristine, natural integrity; significant resource value	Varied resource value	Exceptional or significant resource value	Low to moderate resource value	Low resource value
Value of Area for Active Recreation	No to low active recreational value	Low to moderate active recreational value	Moderate active recreational value	Low to moderate active recreational value	Diverse, significant and high active recreational value	Low active recreational value
Degree of Educational Opportunity Present	Unique or exceptional opportunity	Significant educational opportunity	Moderate educational opportunity	Unique or exceptional educational opportunity	Moderate educational opportunity	Varied educational opportunity
Resource Area Characteristics	These areas are isolated, relatively inaccessible, and free of all put natural sounds.	These areas are secluded, with subdued noise levels and a serene, peaceful environment.	This transition area is characterized by dispersed, sporadic activity. Noise levels vary from relatively quiet to fairly noisy, depending upon the occasion.	Although able to accommodate groups of visitors, these areas are quiet, passive and thought-provoking.	These areas are public and dynamic. They are readily accessible, busy, crowded, noisy, and characterized by almost continuous activity.	Service Support Areas providing visitor services are readily accessible, busy, noisy, and characterized by continuous daytime activity.
Typical Activities within the Area	Guided interpretive walks and scientific study.	Hiking, wildlife watching, photography, small group interpretive walks, cross-country skiing, dispersed picnicking, boating activities that do not degrade the environment or detract from the desired visitor experience.	Natural Area activities, plus mountain biking, picnicking, X-country skiing, fishing, dispersed swimming, boating, special events	Personal inspection, photography, historic research, small group interpretive walks, special events	Natural and Conservation Area activities, plus developed camping, group sports, developed picnicking, boat launching/ mooring/ beaching, swimming, beach activities, non-motorized trail use, motorized trail use, outdoor interpretive programming, recreational housing, overnight lodging	Admission/ registration, fee collection, visitor information, retail sales, staff offices, indoor/outdoor interpretive programming, concession operations, developed moorage, developed parking, staff housing, maintenance/ storage, fueling, utility stations
Acceptable Level of Resource Impact	Extremely low resource impact	Low resource impact	Low to moderate resource impact	Low resource impact	Moderate to high resource impact	High resource impact
Anticipated Degree of Human Contact	Visitors assured a personal experience undisturbed by other park users.	Visitors may occasionally encounter individuals or small groups seeking a similar experience.	Visitors to these areas will frequently encounter other individuals and groups of park users.	During periods of peak use, visitors to these areas are almost certain to encounter other visitors seeking the same experience.	During periods of peak activity, visitors are certain to encounter many other visitors engaged in a wide variety of recreational and social activities.	During daylight hours, visitors are certain to encounter many other visitors seeking services and engaged in a variety of recreational and social activities.
Primary Area Management Objectives	Protect and perpetuate resources; use may be extremely limited or prohibited.	Preserve as near-natural; protect the resource from degradation, inappropriate development and over-use	Provide use and protection; establish use limits for conservation	Preservation paramount; provide opportunity for interpretation and education	Provide recreational opportunities; no irreparable resource damage	Efficient, economic and safe support

Appendix C



OLD MISSION STATE PARK
RESOURCE AREA DESIGNATIONS



MAP 6.1

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Buffer - An area set aside to preserve the integrity of an adjacent area and to prevent physical or aesthetic encroachment on the area.

Compatible uses - Visitor activities which are appropriate resource uses in an area and pose no conflict with each other.

Course and field events - Outdoor recreation activities such as golf; frisbee golf; equestrian dressage events; non-league softball, football, soccer; etc.

Fire control - The suppression or direction of fire away from areas which require protection from being burned.

Fire management - A resource management tool which includes both fire control and prescriptive burning.

Historic - Having importance in, or influence on, history.

Idaho Park and Recreation Board - A bi-partisan six (6) member board, appointed by the governor.

Leisure atmosphere - Freedom from time-consuming duties, responsibilities or activities. A relaxing setting. Freedom from rigid schedules.

Motorized trails - Trails developed and designed for use by off-highway vehicles such as motorbikes, all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles. Motorized trails may also be utilized by nonmotorized trail users.

Nonmotorized trails - Trails developed and designed for use solely by nonmotorized modes of transportation such as hiking, bicycling, in-line skating, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, horse-back riding, etc.

OHV use - Use of outdoor recreation facilities by Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs) such as snowmobiles, motorbikes, and all-terrain vehicles.

Planning Review Team - A planning team assembled to assist in the state park master planning process. This team consists of the Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation director or deputy director, appropriate region manager, park manager, appropriate Development Bureau and/or Recreation Bureau staff, and the Board member in whose region the park is located.

Prehistoric - Of, relating to, or belonging to the era before recorded history.

Prescriptive burning - Burning carried out under the direct supervision of crews especially trained in the methods of when, where, and how fire can be used beneficially to improve vegetative and wildlife management.

Resource impact (low, moderate, high) - The anticipated severity of natural resource and facility degradation resulting from the cumulative effect of typical visitor activities within a resource area, e.g., vegetation loss, soil compaction, soil erosion, tree damage, habitat destruction, facility wear and tear, litter deposition, etc.

Resource modification - Man-created resource management activities which either prevent or mimic naturally-occurring events in a natural system. These activities may include insect and disease control, fire management, wildlife habitat improvement, fisheries improvement, etc.

Solitude - The quality or state of being alone or remote from others.

Special events - Limited duration activities which are planned to attract large numbers of participants.

Water-based recreation - Outdoor recreation pursuits on or in the water such as motorized boating (either gas or electric-powered motors), water skiing, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, rafting, tubing, swimming, etc.

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and resource stewardship.**

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that renew the human spirit
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latch key children • reduce unemployment • INCREASE
COMMUNICATION SKILLS • *Expand knowledge* • Lose weight •
diminish chance of disease • build self-esteem • reduce stress •
promote sensitivity to cultural diversity • **eliminate loneliness** •
INCREASE COMMUNITY PRIDE • *Reduce Crime* • **provide safe**
places to play • *generate revenue* • **lower health care costs**
• **MEET FRIENDS** • educate children and adults • **RELAX** •
KEEP BUSINESS FROM LEAVING • Elevate Personal
Growth • strengthen neighborhood involvement • **conquer**
boredom • provide child care • **BOOST ECONOMY** • curb
employee absenteeism • **increase tourism** • build strong
bodies • *increase property value* • **attract new business** •
Preserve plant and animal wildlife • **instill teamwork** • live
longer • create memories • **PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT** •
CLEAN AIR AND WATER • boost employee
productivity • *look better* • enhance relationship skills •
decrease insurance premiums • **CONTROL WEIGHT** • **OFFER**
PLACE FOR SOCIAL INTERACTION • diminish
gang violence • **TEACH VITAL LIFE SKILLS** • Provide space to
enjoy nature . . .

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